Prostate Cancer Deaths Among San Bernardino County Residents: A Statistical Fact Sheet

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For purposes of this fact sheet, the ICD-10 Code for *prostate cancer* is C61.

About Prostate Cancer

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed form of cancer, other than skin cancer, among men in the United States and is second only to lung cancer as a cause of cancer-related death among men. Age, race, ethnicity, and family history are factors that affect the risk for prostate cancer. About 80% of all men in the U.S. with clinically diagnosed prostate cancer are aged 65 years or older. Because prostate cancer usually occurs at an age when conditions such as heart disease and stroke cause death, many men die *with* prostate cancer rather than *of* it. Fewer than 10% of men in the U.S. with prostate cancer die of the disease within 5 years of diagnosis[1].

African American men in the U.S. develop prostate cancer at a higher rate than men in any other racial or ethnic group, but the reasons for the increased rate remain unknown. They also are far more likely than other men to die of this disease: 48.7 of every 100,000 African American men in the United States die of prostate cancer compared with 19.6 of every 100,000 White men, 14.5 of every 100,000 Hispanic men, 11.3 of every 100,000 American Indian men, and 8.0 of every 100,000 Asian/Pacific Islander men[1].

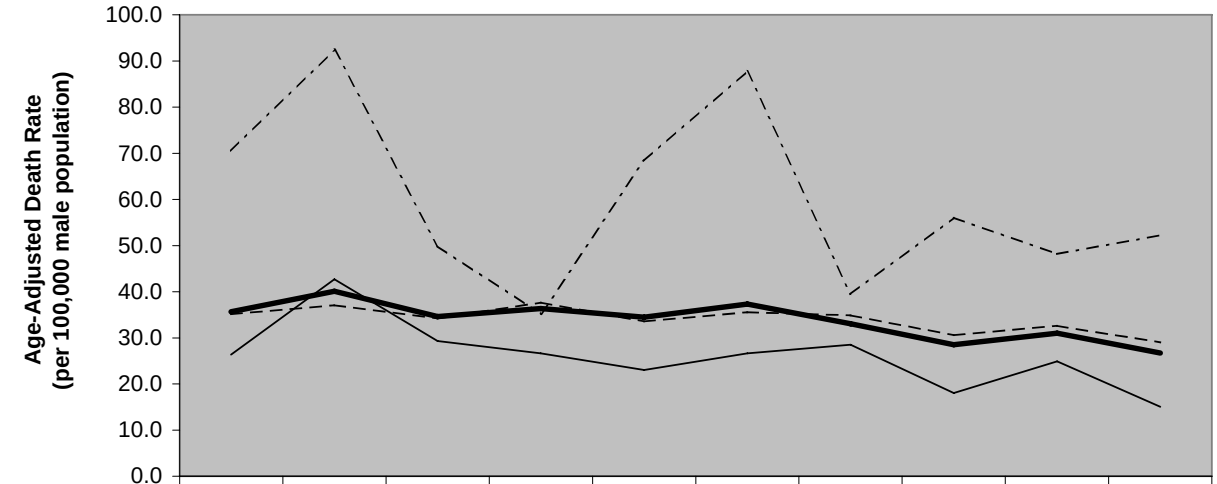
Researchers are investigating numerous factors that might reduce or increase a man's risk for developing prostate cancer. There is no general agreement about which factors truly affect risk. Investigators are studying factors such as the use of herbal supplements, vitamin E, or selenium; certain infectious diseases; men's hormonal characteristics; and diets high in fat or low in fruits and vegetables[1].

Death Rates by Race/Ethnicity

On the whole, prostate cancer death rates among all male residents decreased by 25.2% from 1994 to 2003 in San Bernardino County. Among White male residents, the death rates decreased by 17.4%, Black males experienced a 26% decrease in death rates, and Hispanic males experienced a 42.8% decrease over the ten-year period.

Although males in all racial/ethnic groups experienced decreased death rates due to prostate cancer during the ten-year period, Black males had substantially higher death rates than other racial/ethnic groups during this time period. From 2000 to 2003, White and Hispanic male residents had decreased death rates, while Black males experienced a 32.2% increase. These statistics show that Black residents of San Bernardino County died from prostate cancer at a much higher rate than other racial/ethnic groups from 1994 to 2003.

Prostate Cancer Death Rates by Race/Ethnicity
San Bernardino County Residents, 1994-2003



	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
White	35.1	37.1	34.2	37.6	33.6	35.6	34.9	30.6	32.6	29.0
Black	70.5	92.5	49.9	35.2	68.4	87.8	39.5	56.1	48.2	52.2
Hispanic	26.4	42.7	29.3	26.6	23.0	26.7	28.5	18.1	24.9	15.1
All Races	35.7	40.1	34.6	36.3	34.5	37.3	33.1	28.5	31.0	26.7

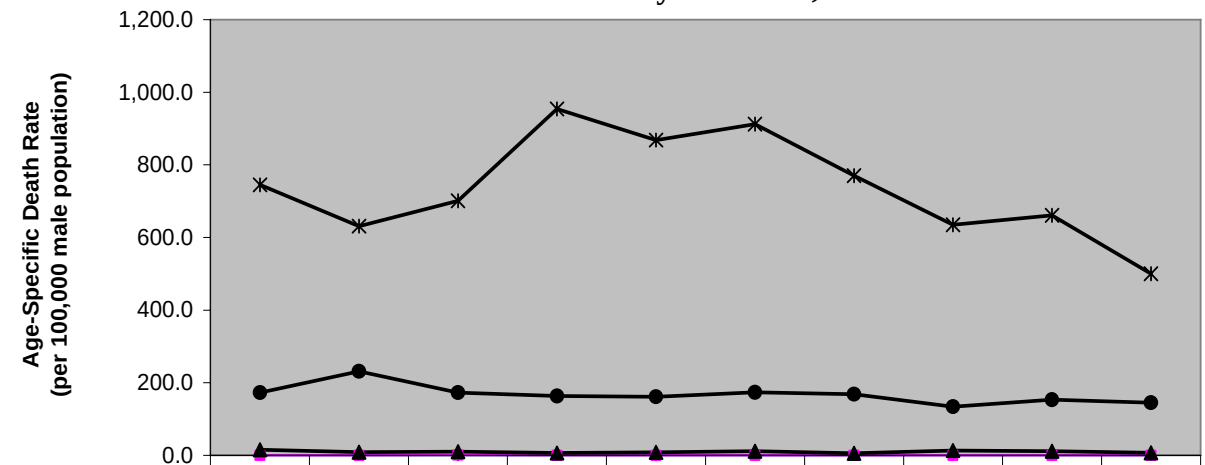
Year

Sources: (1) California Department of Health Services, Death Files.
(2) California Department of Finance, *Race/Ethnic Population with Age Sex Detail, 2000-2050*, May 2004.

Death Rates by Age Group

Male residents over the age of 84 years had much higher death rates due to prostate cancer than other age groups in San Bernardino County from 1994 to 2003. However, the death rates for males in this age group decreased by 32.8% over the ten-year period. Males between the ages of 65 and 84 years experienced a 16.2% decrease in death rates, while males between the ages of 45 and 64 years experienced a 52.9% decrease. Generally, residents under the age of 45 years did not die from prostate cancer from 1994 to 2003.

Prostate Cancer Death Rates by Age Group
San Bernardino County Residents, 1994-2003



	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
0 to 24 Years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
25 to 44 Years	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
45 to 64 Years	15.3	9.1	10.4	6.2	8.1	11.3	5.6	13.2	11.6	7.2
65 to 84 Years	173.1	231.1	172.8	163.1	161.3	173.4	168.7	134.4	152.9	145.1
Over 84 Years	744.6	631.1	701.2	954.0	868.0	911.9	770.6	635.0	661.2	500.5

Year

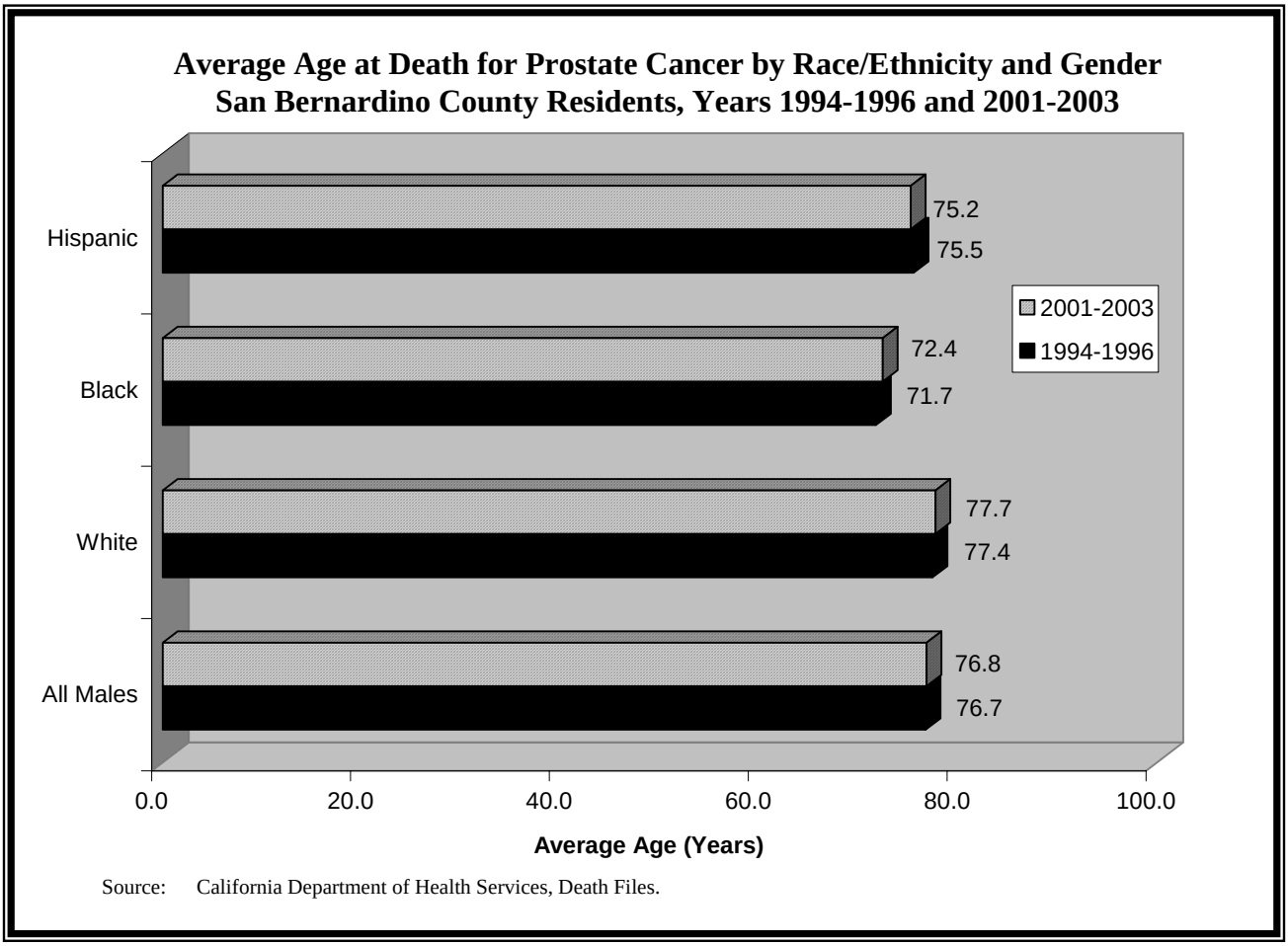
Sources: (1) California Department of Health Services, Death Files.
(2) California Department of Finance, *Race/Ethnic Population with Age Sex Detail, 2000-2050*, May 2004.

Average Age at Death

The average age at which male residents in San Bernardino County died from prostate cancer did not change much from 1994-1996 to 2001-2003. Males in all racial/ethnic groups died at an average age of 76.7 years in 1994-1996, and an average age of 76.8 years in 2001-2003.

On the average, Hispanic and Black male residents died from prostate cancer younger than the overall average age. In 2001-2003, Hispanic males died 1.6 years younger than the average age of all males. Black males died over four years younger than the overall average age during 2001-2003.

In addition to Black males dying younger than the overall average age, Black males died from prostate cancer almost three years younger than Hispanic males and over five years younger than While males during the three-year period 2001-2003.



Source: California Department of Health Services, Death Files.

Geographic Distribution

From 1994 through 2003, the highest number of deaths due to prostate cancer was among San Bernardino County residents who lived in ZIP code 92392 (Victorville). Of the 1,372 deaths due to prostate cancer over the ten-year period, 6.0% of them were among residents who lived in this ZIP code.

Although 6.0% of all the prostate cancer deaths during this ten-year time period were among residents in ZIP code 92392 (Victorville), residents in this same ZIP code represented 5.1% of deaths due to all causes during this time period. This difference was also evident in ZIP code 92404 (San Bernardino), where these residents accounted for 5.7% of all prostate cancer deaths and 4.7% of deaths from all causes.

These geographic statistics regarding prostate cancer deaths are applicable to the specified ZIP code level, not necessarily the city level. This is due to the fact that many cities encompass more than one ZIP code. Therefore, conclusions regarding a particular ZIP code may not be the same conclusions about the entire city. For example, just because residents living in ZIP code 92392 accounted for the highest percentage of prostate cancer deaths does not mean that Victorville, as a whole, accounted for the highest percentage of prostate cancer deaths.

ZIP Codes With Most Prostate Cancer (PC) Deaths as Compared to All Deaths
San Bernardino County Residents, 1994-2003

ZIP Code	City Location	Number of PC Deaths	Percent of PC Deaths	Percent of All Deaths
92392	Victorville	83	6.0	5.1
92404	San Bernardino	78	5.7	4.7
92345	Hesperia	74	5.4	4.7
92399	Yucaipa	64	4.7	4.5
92335	Fontana	56	4.1	4.3
91786	Upland	51	3.7	3.3
92284	Yucca Valley	47	3.4	3.1
92373	Redlands	43	3.1	3.2
92376	Rialto	42	3.1	4.0
92346	Highland	38	2.8	2.7
91710	Chino	37	2.7	2.9
92307	Helendale	37	2.7	2.5
91762	Ontario	34	2.5	2.7
92411	San Bernardino	34	2.5	1.8
91701	Alta Loma	33	2.4	1.9
All	San Bernardino County	1,372		

Source: California Department of Health Services, Death Files.

Summary of Prostate Cancer Deaths

There were a total of 1,372 deaths among San Bernardino County residents due to prostate cancer from 1994 to 2003. White males had higher numbers of deaths than other racial/ethnic groups, followed by Hispanic and Black male residents over the ten-year period.

Even though the number of prostate cancer deaths was highest among White males compared to other racial/ethnic groups, Black males had much higher death rates over the ten-year period. Also, male residents between the ages of 65 and 84 years had a higher number of deaths than other age groups, even though the death rates of residents age 85 years and older were highest (see Technical Notes on page 7 for explanation of *age-adjusted death rate*).

Number of Deaths Due to Prostate Cancer By Gender, Race/Ethnicity, and Age Group
San Bernardino County Residents, 1994-2003

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Total	133	151	129	129	127	145	144	134	148	132
Gender										
Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Male	133	151	129	129	127	145	144	134	148	132
Race/Ethnicity										
White	105	113	102	107	96	107	111	98	104	94
Black	13	14	10	5	12	16	10	19	15	18
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	2	2	1	5	4	1	0	3	2
American Indian	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	1	0
Other/Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hispanic	15	22	15	15	14	18	20	16	25	18
Age Group										
0 to 24 Years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25 to 44 Years	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45 to 64 Years	18	11	13	8	11	16	9	22	20	13
65 to 84 Years	85	114	86	82	82	91	97	79	92	90
Over 84 Years	30	26	29	39	34	38	38	33	36	29

Source: California Department of Health Services, Death Files.

Technical Notes

Age-adjusted death rate: The age-adjusted death rates presented in this fact sheet were calculated using the direct method and do not include decedents of unknown age. The rate is computed by grouping the populations into subsets by age, calculating an age-specific death rate for each group, then deriving a composite death rate by weighting each age category in proportion to its occurrence in a standard population, in this case the 2000 U.S. standard million population. Age-adjusted death rates permit the comparison of populations with disparate age structures as if the populations had similar age distributions. This means that when comparing age-adjusted rates between two or more populations, remaining differences in the rates must be explained by factors other than age. For more information about age-adjusted rates, please see the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's definition of age-adjustment at: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/datawh/nchsdefs/ageadjustment.htm.

Age-specific death rate: The age-specific death rates presented in this fact sheet were obtained by dividing the number of deaths in the specified age group by the estimated population in that specified age group and multiplying by 100,000.

$$\text{Age-specific death rate} = \frac{\text{number of deaths in an age group}}{\text{population size in same age group}} \times 100{,}000$$

Race/ethnicity: The following six mutually exclusive race/ethnicity groups were used to report the mortality data presented in this fact sheet: (1) White, Non-Hispanic; (2) Black, Non-Hispanic; (3) Asian/Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic; (4) American Indian, Non-Hispanic; (5) Other/Unknown, Non-Hispanic; and (6) Hispanic. The Hispanic ethnic group includes any race. The racial/ethnic category of *Multiple Race* was not included in the analyses for this fact sheet.

Cited References

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, *Prostate Cancer: The Public Health Perspective, 2001*, http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/prostate/prospdf/proaag01.pdf (accessed July 2005).

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